

Orlando Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Worship With An Attention to Business
First Day
February 10, 2019

The Opening of Worship - Friends were called to gather by Liz Jenkins, Clerk, at 11:45 AM. The Meeting for Worship With An Attention to Business settled with a brief time of silent worship.

Reading - Jerry Knutson read from: "Queries on the Meeting for Business," p.127, Southeastern Yearly Meeting of The Religious Society of Friends, Faith and Practice, 4th Edition 2013.

For Participants in the Meeting for Business:

Do I accept responsibility to assist the Clerk by maintaining openness, sensitivity, and tenderness to others, recognizing that the true sense of the meeting can be ascertained only when all present are clerking the meeting together with the Clerk, practicing spiritual discernment to the best of our abilities?

For the Clerk of Meeting for Business:

Do I make use of periods of silent worship, when necessary? Do I avoid secular business practices and help the meeting to avoid such practices? Do I do my best to ensure a true corporate seeking after Light and the achievement of a true unity?"

REPORTS

Treasurer's Report - Treasurer Greg Allen-Anderson distributed and projected the monthly report which was also sent as a DIA for this meeting. The format of the treasurer's report is changed in the new year, giving prominence to greater line item expenses and income. Also, the percentage of the budget is now the percent year to date.

Two prominent expenses for the past month were one-time Treasurer's expenses and the January Worship and Ministry expenses.

The Sales tax exemption for the meeting was obtained for significant cost items. The meeting's 501.3c status will be finalized in April.

A question was asked about the considerable ground care expense. The Property Clerk responded it was an unusual cost due to improvements but mostly for tree removal, not a part of regular ground-care expenditures.

The Treasurer's Report was accepted.

Worship & Ministry Report – Vicki Carlie

Marcelle Martin Vicki presented a proposal to host Marcelle Martin, a past and well-received Michener Lecturer. Marcelle is traveling through Central Florida and offered to give a talk to Orlando Friends. Marcelle is a wonderful, deeply spiritual Quaker author and former teacher at Pendle Hill.

2019.02-01 Friends approve the Worship & Ministry Committee recommendation that OMM host Marcelle Martin on Thursday evening March 21st.

Dinner will be at Viet Garden at 6 PM. With the evening's program beginning at the meetinghouse about 7:30. Members will provide additional accommodations for Marcelle during her short stay.

Greeter For Meeting Worship and Ministry asks for more volunteers to be "Greeters" before First Day worship. Stephanie Preston has volunteered to begin on February 17 and she will continue as Greeter until she requests her release.

Spiritual State of the Meeting Report, A draft of the 2018 Spiritual State of the Meeting Report for Orlando MM, was emailed for members' consideration and was reviewed at this meeting. The final report is due in the SEYM office by February 28th. The responses are to queries about our collective spiritual unity and activities.

Long ago, George Fox encouraged worship groups to inform each other on matters of spiritual importance to their respective worship groups. The document is a response to the query "How is Spirit moving among us."

Gratitude was expressed to Vicki and the Committees for the report. (See the Attachment)

2019.02-02 Friends approve the annual Spiritual State of the Meeting Report prepared by Vicki Carlie with assistance from Worship and Ministry Committee with two minor editorial changes.

Nominating Committee – Liz Jenkins reported as outgoing Clerk of the Nominating Committee. The first Reading of 2019 Officers and Committees was presented at the January meeting for business. Following explanations and two minor changes:

2019.02-03 Friends gratefully approve the "Proposed Slate of Officers, Committees, and Contacts for Orlando Quakers for 2019 – 2021, as amended and effective the end of this meeting. (This is Second Reading. Document Attached.

The Clerk noted that Steven Riddle is serving on the Communications Committee. There are many positions of service open for a Friend to consider if led. Hospitality, Property, and Nominating Committees are particularly in need of additional help.

The Clerk requested Friends to consider a *New Light on Safety, Security, and Emergency Preparedness for our Meeting and Immediate Community*. The topic was first introduced in December (2018) meeting for business.

Questions were offered for consideration on the key concerns, how to set priorities, committee involvement, and finding a way forward. Friends spent time in silence reflecting on thoughts about this topic. The following is a summary of the many leadings which Friends spoke and offered their measure of Light.

In recounting the words of Michener Lecturer Eden Grace and the vulnerabilities (dangers) missionaries often face "We go to places with no protection but are willing to learn from those who are experienced. The Clerk spoke from personal experience about safety, once explained to her condition to "Please be guided by us . . . those who know of the possibilities." We need to heed the guidance of experience.

An awareness of gun violence is a larger Orlando community issue to which we should attend. Secondly, we must be wiser discerning directions on what not to do in traumatic situations.

In discussion with an officer, a question was directed to the officer about what to do in a violence threatening situation at a church. The officer stated, "get a weapon" or hire "an armed security guard." Many others would ask, "Why wouldn't we have armed guards?" Many don't understand the Quaker beliefs of nonviolence and that "We do not take up arms."

A recommendation was made to contact other meetings to inquire about what they are doing about the matter of security.

A good security system provides ways of quick response.

Invite a Sheriff Department's representative/expert to give a talk that does not infringe upon religious beliefs, but recommends actions which could be taken.

Based on Friends' personal and meetinghouse experiences and the need to respond to a more likely life-threatening emergency, the meeting should purchase a Defibrillator. Although a member said he feels no less safe today than years ago, emergency preparedness is necessary.

The safety and security of children is always part of any plan.

There are "Larger Concerns" to consider. Space should be given to the discussion of race, class, identity and the role of law enforcement, incarceration, and appropriate non-violence responses.

Security is becoming a juggernaut of fear. The techniques in training ourselves in active non-violence and peace-making teams are useful in programmatic training but must continue to be based on our beliefs.

We are led to have increased concern for others given the increased number of incidents. There is a need for general emergency preparedness. We can not be derelict in caring for others.

We have a responsibility to the extent we can be prepared.

Even in the context of Friends testimony of peace and nonviolence proper security means we can't ignore what has happened or could happen. Even personal property loss can lead to other increased security problems.

Security is important as a spiritual concern to all members of the community.

In response to the concerns, we approved the following three minutes;

2019.02-04 Peace and Social Concerns and Worship and Ministry committees will discern: How may Orlando Monthly Meeting better support real and practical actions to reduce and prevent violence; and how may OMM, acting in the Spirit, traditions and longtime experience of Friends wisely improve our emergency preparedness and responsiveness.

2019.03-05 Friends ask the OMM Peace and Social Concerns and Worship and Ministry committees to identify other relevant queries to bring new light to the concerns addressed in Minute 2019.02-04.

2019.02-06 Friends request Property Committee to do the necessary research and purchase a defibrillator with appropriate training, additional storage space for the equipment and other related items. (Reference to 2019.02-4)

No Agenda Items or Reports Received: Care and Community, Grants, Hospitality, Property

Upcoming Events at OMM and SEYM

"The Inner Guide versus the Inner Critic," Workshop presented by Christine Wolff on 03/03/2019

The Annual Meeting of Orlando Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends, Inc., will be on 03/10/2019 in conjunction with the monthly meeting for business.

A Visit with Marcelle Martin on 03/21/2019 – An explanation appears in these minutes.

Southeastern Yearly Meeting Gathering will be held 04/17/2019 to 04/21/2019 - Registration is open.

Items for 3rd Month Agenda

1. Friends are requested to consider the letter and 2nd draft of *A Testimony to Earthcare*. The request for input on the final draft has been made to all SEYM meetings. The SEYM Earthcare Committee approved the draft at yearly meeting (2018). The testimony will further appear in the Yearly Meeting Documents in Advance (DIA) and be offered for final approval by the yearly meeting in April. There will be a workshop at the Gathering regarding the testimony. (See Attachment)

To encourage responses to *A Testimony for Earthcare*, Friends suggested included placing a reference in Quaker Notes and appear on the March meeting agenda. Bill Carlie, Co-Clerk of the Yearly Meeting Earthcare Committee, stated the committee is in the final step of seeking unity from SEYM meetings and worship groups on the document. The object of this Monthly Meeting consideration is to adjudge if the Testimony is acceptable to each constituent meeting.

2. Revised Committee Description for Worship and Ministry (See Attachment)

Brief, silent worship concluded the Meeting for Worship With An Attention to Business at 1:55 PM.

In attendance (for all our part of the meeting): Andrea Hinch, Tom Gottshalk, Minerva Glidden, Eduardo Ysern, Jerry Knutson, Kate Joseph, Bill Carlie, Vicki Carlie, Greg Allen-Anderson, Gary Evans, Chris Laning, Ray Jenkins, Liz Jenkins, Ed Lesnick (Recording Clerk), Stephanie Preston-Hughes, Jared Silvia, Kody Hersh, and Rick & Lianne Burmson (visiting Friends from Madison, Wisconsin).

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Profit and Loss

January 2019

	Total
INCOME	
5100 Support Gifts	360.00
5200 Reimbursement/ Use of MH/ Parki	826.00
5500 Trustee transfers, yearly	65,000.00
5600 Trustee transfers for Grants	20,000.00
5850 Donations for Special Ministry	1,000.00
Total Income	87,186.00
GROSS PROFIT	87,186.00
EXPENSES	
6010 Repairs & Maintenance	705.00
6040 Housekeeping	1,023.77
6045 Pest Control	78.00
6050 Grounds Care	7,645.00
6070 Phone	44.21
6090 Utilities MH	216.23
6100 Insurance	1,310.30
6110 Utilities, WC	97.25
6155 Treasurers' expenses	74.54
6160 Property Care and Maintenance	866.67
6500 Other Property Expenses	108.85
7050 Fellowship & Hospitality	921.48
7210 Young Friends Group	250.00
7230 Worship & Ministry	314.07
7300 Homeless Ministry	50.00
Total Expenses	13,705.37
NET OPERATING INCOME	73,480.63
OTHER INCOME	
Interest Earned	9.46
Total Other Income	9.46
NET OTHER INCOME	9.46
NET INCOME	\$73,490.09

Balance Sheet

As of January 31, 2019

	Total
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
1020 SHARE SAVINGS (XXX -S00)	30,097.16
1022 BUSINESS DRAFT(NON-PROFIT) (XXX)	94,938.37
1023 Special Ministries Fund	1,000.00
1024 Pendle Hill Scholarship Fund	5,900.00
Total 1022 BUSINESS DRAFT(NON-PROFIT) (XXX)	101,838.37
1025 Bento Augie	297.88
Total Bank Accounts	132,233.41
Total Current Assets	132,233.41
Fixed Assets	
1800 Land	7,000.00
1901 Webster Cottage	23,500.00
1902 Acc Depr Webster Cottage	-23,500.00
Total 1901 Webster Cottage	0.00
Total Fixed Assets	7,000.00
TOTAL ASSETS	\$139,233.41
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
Accounts Payable	255.00
Total Accounts Payable	255.00
Total Current Liabilities	255.00
Total Liabilities	255.00
Equity	
30000 Opening Balance Equity	20,656.16
32000 Retained Earnings	44,832.16
Net Income	73,490.09
Total Equity	138,978.41
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$139,233.41

Budget vs Actuals 2019

January 2019

	Actual	Budget	over Budget	Total % of Budget
INCOME				
5100 Support Gifts	360.00	416.67	-56.67	86.40 %
5200 Reimbursement/ Use of MH/ Parki	826.00	750.00	76.00	110.13 %
5500 Trustee transfers, yearly	65,000.00	65,000.00	0.00	100.00 %
5600 Trustee transfers for Grants	20,000.00	20,000.00	0.00	100.00 %
5850 Donations for Special Ministry	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00	
Total Income	87,186.00	86,166.67	1,019.33	101.18 %
GROSS PROFIT	87,186.00	86,166.67	1,019.33	101.18 %
EXPENSES				
6010 Repairs & Maintenance	705.00	666.67	38.33	105.75 %
6040 Housekeeping	1,023.77	1,050.00	-26.23	97.50 %
6045 Pest Control	78.00	166.67	-88.67	46.80 %
6050 Grounds Care	7,645.00	7,000.00	645.00	109.21 %
6060 Bank Service Charges		8.33	-8.33	
6070 Phone	44.21	50.00	-5.79	88.42 %
6090 Utilities MH	216.23	200.00	16.23	108.12 %
6100 Insurance	1,310.30	1,225.00	85.30	106.96 %
6110 Utilities, WC	97.25	100.00	-2.75	97.25 %
6150 Professional Fees		83.33	-83.33	
6155 Treasurers' expenses	74.54	16.67	57.87	447.15 %
6160 Property Care and Maintenance	866.67	866.67	0.00	100.00 %
6500 Other Property Expenses	108.85	308.33	-199.48	35.30 %
7030 Outreach & Adult Education		83.33	-83.33	
7050 Fellowship & Hospitality	921.48	850.00	71.48	108.41 %
7070 Library & Subscriptions		41.67	-41.67	
7080 Archives		4.17	-4.17	
7090 Communications		16.67	-16.67	
7100 Travel		83.33	-83.33	
7110 Travel for SEYM		166.67	-166.67	
7150 Care & Community		83.33	-83.33	
7170 Peace & Social Concerns		83.33	-83.33	
7210 Young Friends Group	250.00	291.67	-41.67	85.71 %
7230 Worship & Ministry	314.07	41.67	272.40	753.71 %
7300 Homeless Ministry	50.00	166.67	-116.67	30.00 %
7500 Other Expenses		25.00	-25.00	
8240 Meeting Projects		16.67	-16.67	
8330 Scholarships		125.00	-125.00	
8500 Donations		41.67	-41.67	
Uncategorized Expense		8.33	-8.33	
Total Expenses	13,705.37	13,870.85	-165.48	98.81 %
NET OPERATING INCOME	73,480.63	72,295.82	1,184.81	101.64 %

	Actual	Budget	over Budget	Total % of Budget
OTHER INCOME				
Interest Earned	9.46	20.83	-11.37	45.42 %
Total Other Income	9.46	20.83	-11.37	45.42 %
NET OTHER INCOME	9.46	20.83	-11.37	45.42 %
NET INCOME	\$73,490.09	\$72,316.65	\$1,173.44	101.62 %

Expenses by Vendor Summary

January 2019

	Total
ABB TREE SERVICE LLC	7,220.00
Ace Hardware	2.12
August Muehleman	866.67
Best Buy	53.24
Brighthouse Networks	44.21
Glidden, Minerva	50.00
GuideOne Insurance	1,310.30
In Touch Cleaning LLC	1,023.77
Intuit	74.54
Jorge Arenas Landscaping and Lawnservice LLC	425.00
Keith Matta Renovations and Repairs	125.00
Marie Florance Rezeau	250.00
Massey Services	78.00
No Sweat AC & Heating	255.00
OUC	313.48
Protect America	53.49
Publix	921.48
Shamrock Plumbing and Drain Cleaning Inc	325.00
Not Specified	314.07
TOTAL	\$13,705.37

Orlando Monthly Meeting Spiritual State of the Meeting 2018

***How has the Spirit been moving among us this past year?
How does love manifest itself in our meeting?***

We continue to feel a strong sense of community. As in 1 Corinthians 12, there are many parts and many gifts, but one body and one Spirit. Love is manifest in the way we work together, listen to each other, appreciate the gifts each brings to the whole, and simply enjoy being together. Fellowship after worship is a time of welcoming hospitality, friendship and laughter. Friends put thought and care, and time and energy into committee work, preparing Conversations to Explore, nurturing our Young Friends Group, bible study, music, and much more.

We have seen the Spirit leading us into greater tenderness, patience and courage.

There are very tangible ways that both our Care & Community committee and members care for those in our Meeting community who may be experiencing health concerns, significant family losses, or tough circumstances. More of this loving care goes on quietly Friend to Friend than we can know.

How does the spirit of worship extend into our committee work and into meeting for worship with a concern for business?

We find that the Spirit of worship extends into working together, not only in listening, love and discernment; but also in coming into that spiritual place of Community. Here we find the fellowship that puts all at ease, as well as a sense of humor. Our committee meetings and meeting for business have not only quiet discernment, but also laughter.

We have seen that understanding Quaker process, seeing problems as shared, and setting aside our personal opinions to discover what Spirit wants for us as we work together in shared discernment creates a 'good order' that empowers us to do work as diverse as hosting the Michener Lecture, resolving legal structures for our Meeting and Trustees, communicating our faith tradition at an interfaith event, and managing our building and grounds with patience, good humor and diligence, and so much more.

Do you have other reflections on the current condition of the meeting--places where you see new life emerging?

We see new life and energy emerging in the increased attendance at worship and in members and attenders contributing to in the life of the Meeting. We see it in the growing desire to do outreach and connect with the wider community.

We are discovering how our attention to our spiritual lives and our fellowship ---and the more pragmatic work of putting our property, organization, and Quaker process in good order---has brought us to a place where we can offer more to others and reach out to new possibilities.

We're excited that we could extend ourselves to provide housing for Kody Hersh as he serves as SEYM's Youth and Young Adult Coordinator; to begin a mid-week evening worship to be more open to young adults and others who cannot attend on Sundays; to connect with the interfaith community; and to host more events, including a dinner for advocates for Temporary Protected Status immigrants.

We are excited about the formation of St. Augustine Worship Group. We are looking forward to a mutually enriching connection with this new group of Friends. They are a wonderful example of 'new life' springing up, and we are happy to be in a place where we can offer our support.

As the new year begins, we will be re-activating our Peace & Social Concerns committee and getting ready to convene a working group on outreach. We have, for years, hoped to find energy to do effective Quaker witness.

Looking ahead, we know there will be challenges and difficulties. Our hope is that we can pay greater attention to the leadings we feel, to listen for the 'new life, and see the ways that open, not missing the Spirit's invitations to join in on what God is doing.

Southeastern Yearly Meeting

Quakers in Florida, southeast Georgia & coastal South Carolina

To Clerks of SEYM Meetings and Worship Groups

Greetings Friends,

The SEYM Earthcare committee seeks your Meeting's comments, discernment, or approval for this draft "Testimony to Earthcare," which is meant to be a faith statement that reflects our spiritual experience and deeper convictions as well as concerns for the Earth.

It is our intent to present a final draft of this statement, seasoned by your input and discernment, to SEYM's Annual Sessions for discernment or approval.

Please submit your comments to the Committee by March 25th. The committee will remain open to working with Friends who may have concerns at any point prior to final approval.

Please send comments directly to me at williamcarlie@embarqmail.com.

Sincerely,



Bill Carlie, Co-Clerk
SEYM Earthcare Committee

Background:

The SEYM Earthcare Committee held a retreat session at last Annual Gathering with the intent of discernment toward preparing a "Testimony to Earthcare" as a faith statement that reflects our concerns for this time and our deeper convictions for any time. The draft "A Testimony to Earth Care" was drafted by a small sub-committee of Friends from the retreat session notes and then approved by the full Earthcare Committee for wider distribution and discernment. The draft was included in the Winter Interim Business Meeting with a request for approval to formally distribute the draft to Monthly Meetings for discernment, comment, or approval as Friends may be led.

WIBM approved the following minute:

19WIBM01. Winter Interim Business Meeting of Southeastern Yearly Meeting approves distribution of "A Testimony to Earthcare," as included in the 2019 WIBM Documents in Advance, to the monthly meetings and worship groups for consideration and comments in response.

A Testimony to Earthcare (2nd draft)

Friends experience a deep spiritual connection to the natural world. Our connection arises from and integrates with our Testimonies to Simplicity, Integrity, Community, and Equality and centers on living in Peace as part of the environment.

Friends arrive at this sense of deep connection, as with all things, by many paths. Some Friends find this to arise from a sense of responsibility and stewardship, “that we must take care of the gift on loan to us”. Other Friends express this connection as an understanding that “nature itself is an expression of the Divine”. Some find joy and reverence in the simple experience of the natural world. Others among us study nature and find inspiration in the complexity of interrelatedness, in how each element of nature depends on another. Many of us share in all or most of these paths and we unite in seeking a greater sense of communion with the natural world.

Friends deeply lament the damage already done to the natural world and the continuing process of environmental degradation that is often the result of our search for material gain and individual satiation regardless of cost. Our Testimony to Simplicity expresses itself in this regard in a manner that often unites with the words of George Fox who cautions us to “not waste the creation upon our lusts”. We understand and acknowledge that living in a natural, clean, and safe environment has a far greater value than all the material things that arise from destroying it can ever provide.

Our Testimony to Integrity compels us to live lives that are honest, fair, and just. We find that practices that export the impacts of our excessive consumption to our neighbors in other communities, states, and nations lack this integrity.

Historically, our Testimony to Equality has caused us to object to exploitation with the strength and resilience of Truth. We find the conditions that allow for the exploitation of natural resources and of our human communities to be cut from the same spiritual fabric. We are called to break our silence and refuse to consent when environmental injustice is visited upon those whose voices are consistently ignored. We are led, as Friends have been at other daunting moments in history, to overcome our own despair, to relieve suffering, and to unite with Spirit in ways never before imagined to bring new possibilities to Life.

Daily, we become more aware of the suffering of the planet and its people. We find an increasing demand to do justice, to “let our lives speak” individually and corporately. Living in Blessed Community with each other and the natural world takes more than words, it requires action. We encourage Friends to worship together with deep attention to how they may act to bring forward a sense of peace in our experience of community with each other and in communion with nature.